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## South Carolina Library Bulletin v.5 n.2 07/1949

### Abstract

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# SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY BULLETIN



Vol. 5, No. 2

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY BOARD

July, 1949

## Plans for 28th Annual Meeting of S. C. L. A.

By J. Mitchell Reames, President, S. C. L. A.

Plans are rapidly developing for the Twenty-eighth Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Library Association which is scheduled for September 30-October 1 in Greenville at the Poinsett Hotel. Registration will begin at 1:00 P. M. on Friday afternoon, September 30, and the first session will convene at 3:00 P. M. Mrs. Dorothy Baker Thomas, Librarian of the Avery and Watauga County Libraries, Celo, North Carolina, will speak at this session on the topic, "Shoes and books have to fit". Also, at this afternoon meeting, we are planning a report on the reorganization of the Southeastern Library Association and discussion of this as it relates to our own State Association.

At 7:30 P. M., Friday, in the Ballroom of the Poinsett, we shall convene for our banquet meeting. Mr. Milton Lord, Director of the Boston Public Library and President-elect of the American Library Association, will be our banquet speaker. Mr. Lord will come to us fresh from his round the world trip as a participant in the World Town Meeting and World Town Hall Seminar being conducted this summer by Town Hall, Inc. His subject will deal with librarianship as a world-wide job essential to the peace and prosperity of all mankind.

The Breakfast meetings of the various groups of librarians will convene at 8:00 A. M. on Saturday morning, October 1st.

At 10:00 A. M. on Saturday morning, October 1, we shall hold our annual business meeting in the City Hall, one block below the Poinsett Hotel.

The final meeting of the convention will be the luncheon meeting at 12:30, Saturday in the Ballroom at the Poinsett. Main speaker for this event will be Mr. C. Hugh Holman, South Carolina author, now a resident of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, who will speak on the subject, "Confessions of a Detective Story Writer". After Mr. Holman's address, just prior to adjournment, a special committee will stage a "What's Your Number" feature, at which time the holders of lucky numbers will be recipients of gifts representing various South Carolina industries.

As in the past, exhibits from various publishing firms and book dealers will be on display on the Mezzanine floor of the hotel. On exhibit also will be the new branch library on wheels from the Greenville Public Library as well as new bookmobiles from various libraries throughout the State.

A number of convention committees are now functioning and others will be appointed and announced later. Further announcements regarding the program and plans

for the meeting will be sent to the membership in mimeographed form.

Hotel rates at the Poinsett for the meeting will be as follows: single rooms: \$3.50 to \$7.00 per day; double rooms: \$6.00 to \$10.00 per day, all rooms with bath.

This will be the first meeting of the Association held in the Up-country in several years and we are anticipating a large attendance.

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## State Aid 1949-50

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY

The South Carolina State Library Board is again making available \$1,000 in State Aid to qualifying county libraries and county members of regional library combinations. A direct allotment of funds will be made to those county and regional libraries employing a professional librarian. Counties which have not yet been able to employ a trained librarian will receive books in the amount of \$1,000.

Two Regional Library Establishment Grants of \$4,000 are available to new county combinations for regional library service. Regional Library Maintenance Grants will be made to established regional libraries. This grant amounts to \$500 per participating county.

## Miss Mary E. Frayser Tours State

Miss Mary E. Frayser, Chairman of the State Library Board and of the Trustees Section of the S. C. Library Association toured the state during June in the interest of a better Trustee Section. Miss Frayser hopes to gather a large group of Trustees for the Greenville meeting of SCLA. Miss Frayser feels that well organized library boards and well informed board members will do much to improve public library service in South Carolina.

## Horry County Memorial Library Dedicated

The Horry County Memorial Library, recently completed at a cost of \$100,000, was opened on July 1 with a dedicatory program and an open house. The new library is a memorial to the men and women from Horry County who fought in World Wars I and II. Created by legislative act, it will serve all residents of the county.

Former Senator Frank A. Thompson was in charge of the dedicatory program which was held in the library auditorium. A feature of the occasion was former Sena-



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 Miss Emily Sanders, Librarian, Charleston Free Library, Charleston, Past President.

tor Paul Quattlebaum's account of the library movement in Horry County. During the program, the keys of the library were presented to Mr. J. C. Burroughs, chairman of the library commission, by State Senator Ernest E. Richardson.

The new library building is the first in South Carolina and one of the few in the southeast planned to house county library service. The large bookmobile garage is a part of the building and contains shelving, loading platforms, and inclined ramps for convenience of loading books. The auditorium seats 200 and is planned for work with groups and for audio-visual library service. The library proper contains a children's room, young adults alcove, main reading room, periodical alcove and reference room. Adequate work and office space have been provided as well as locked glass cases for valuable South Caroliniana. The building, designed by Hopkins and Baker of Florence, is in the best colonial tradition. Walls are colonial green with white woodwork throughout. The building is attractively furnished.

Miss Mary Parham, a former army librarian who served in both Europe and the Pacific, is the librarian of the Horry County Library. She has been in Conway for the past year selecting and preparing the large book collection which will be available to the people of Horry.

## Myrtle Beach Has New Library Building

The Chapin Memorial Library, completed at an estimated cost of \$40,000, was opened in Myrtle Beach on June 1. During the morning program the keys to the library were presented to the library commission by a representative of the Chapin Foundation. At the afternoon program the Archibald Rutledge Club presented the library with a large collection of Dr. Rutledge's books.

The Chapin Memorial Library is a member of the Horry County Library system. Mrs. Martha J. Norment, formerly employed on the staff of the McKissick Library of the University of South Carolina, has been appointed librarian. Rev. C. D. Brearley is the chairman of the Myrtle Beach Library Commission.

## Chester County Library Receives \$100 From Harry Futterman Fund

The Chester County Library has recently been the recipient of a gift of \$100 from the Harry Futterman Fund of New York City. This money was left in trust by the late Harry Futterman of New York and specifically designated for public libraries for the purchasing of musical recordings. The gift was made available to those libraries that are rendering free of charge actual and real public service, regardless of race or creed. The Chester County Library qualified on this score in that it maintains a main library in Chester, two branch libraries in the county, a bookmobile and a Negro Branch Library in the Finley High School building.

The \$100 has been divided so that the Finley Branch received \$50 for the purchase of musical records and the remaining \$50 was used for records for the general county library collection. These recordings will be circulated free of charge on the same basis as books.

Several libraries in South Carolina requested to be considered for the gift. Chester County Library was the first to receive the gift.

## School Library Workshop

The State Department of Education and State College sponsored another school library workshop for untrained and partially trained negro school librarians and teacher-librarians at State College, Orangeburg, June 13-July 16. Twenty-five scholarships were awarded to those who will hold a school library position during the 1949-50 session in either a high school or elementary school in South Carolina.

Miss Emily Copeland, Head of the Library Science Department, State College, directed the workshop. She was assisted by Miss Penny E. Perry and Mrs. Esther Smith Fennell, of the Charlotte, North Carolina city schools. Miss Nancy Jane Day, School Library Supervisor and Mr. C. B. Seaborn, Agent for Negro Schools, both of the State Department of Education, worked with Miss Copeland and her staff. Other members of the State Department of Education, especially those from the Division of Instruction, made contributions to the workshop.

## Lexington County Library Opens Branches

The Lexington County Library recently opened new branch libraries in West Columbia and Lexington. The County Library, under the supervision of Miss Lorena Miller, is providing the books. The book collections are kept up-to-date by regular exchanges of books from the County Library bookmobile which visits the branches every two weeks.

The West Columbia Library is located in the City Hall and hours are from 2 to 4 each Tuesday and Friday. It is sponsored by the West Columbia Woman's Club. At the present time members of the Club are serving as library custodians.

The Lexington Library is located in the Town Hall and hours are from 3 to 5 each Tuesday and Thursday. This library is sponsored by the ladies' clubs of Lexington. Mrs. G. R. McSwain is serving as branch librarian.



## Library at Lander Gets Face-Lifting

The Lander college library is undergoing a general face-lifting operation which will produce a modernly equipped and serviced place for students by next Fall, according to Miss Elizabeth Welborn, librarian. She expects the work to be completed by September. Modern steel shelving was put into place as the first step of the operation.

Work swung into high gear after the close of school. The plan calls for the construction of a balcony adjacent to the southeast wall of the library and adjoining the present shelf and reading section. Former reading space is being converted into shelf room and the entire balcony section devoted to book shelves.

On the lower floor, shelves will surround a reading space located in the center of the room. Twenty-five square feet of reading space per pupil will be provided by this arrangement. The walls will be refinished in light green.

Two rooms to be constructed near the south corner of the library will serve as the librarian's office and a workroom for the staff. The present walls in that corner will be torn out and extended to form the offices.

The coming year will see an increase in the number of current magazines received by the library, and bound volumes of magazines will be added to keep the files complete. Additional books are being acquired constantly. The plan promises to make the library a well-rounded and equipped place for students to work.

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## Reading Guidance for Children in Colleton County

By Marguerite Gramling, Librarian  
Colleton County Library

A few years ago, Herbert Zim, popular author of factual books, wrote an article entitled "Modern kids want facts". Judging by the demands made on the Colleton County Library, modern children do want facts! And they want a variety of kinds.

Each month as we total our circulation, we find that about 60% of our children's reading is factual. Therefore, I think it's safe to say that they enjoy reading facts.

But it's an enjoyment that comes from digging down through solid pages to find what one is seeking — a fact, a clue, a bit of evidence, an opinion; or to find, usually by chance, something far more interesting, more exciting, more useful, than the thing being looked for.

Books provide the answers when first-hand experiences are limited. Many children, for instance, don't have the opportunity to travel over this vast country of ours. But through their reading, everyday life in other parts of America is changed into familiar home territory.

Next to teaching children how to read, probably the most serious problem today is helping children to know and to love good books, factual as well as fictional.

The movies, the radio, the bright lights on the street corner — all make long inroads into the time that children used to spend in reading. Also, for most girls and boys, there are after-school activities — music lessons, Scout work, and home duties. And the problem is further complicated by another force — the comic books,

whose pictured heroics in the air, on land, and on sea, make all other recorded exploits seem dull and amateurish.

The power of books has long been recognized. "Medicine for the soul" was the inscription over the doorway of a library in ancient Greece. And it's still as true a line today as it was then.

The following inscription appears in the Children's Room of the public library of a New England town:

Books are keys to wisdom's treasure;  
Books are gates to lands of pleasure;  
Books are paths that upward lead;  
Books are friends. Come, let us read!

Here in a simple, four-lined verse is the magic, the vitality, and the power of books! And here, too, is our challenge to help boys and girls through books to explore the whole world of knowledge.

But how are children to do this if they have never found pleasure in reading, never experienced a mental "pick-up" from print, never learned to re-create the experiences of others, and never mingled freely with all kinds of books?

Modern children's books are attractive, interesting, and well-written. There are big books and little books, thick and thin, sad and humorous. And there are good pictures to illustrate the stories, as many of our outstanding artists have turned to illustrating children's books.

In our efforts to build a love for reading in the young child, it's well to remember these six points:

**First**, The child will more than likely read whatever is easiest for him to get hold of. Cheap comic books will be picked up from the news stands if parents allow this, rather than good books from the nearest library when this library is some distance away.

**Second**, Children are more likely to read if there is a quiet spot for them at home. Very little reading is done in a family that is nervously on the move.

**Third**, The natural way to interest children in reading is to provide situations requiring the use of books.

**Fourth**, The highest values in reading, as in everything else, are gotten slowly; therefore, the earlier children begin to develop good reading habits the better.

**Fifth**, Good reading which portrays real-life situations must gradually be substituted for reading which provides only escape — as fairy tales.

**Sixth**, The love of good books is to a large extent the product of circumstances — of having more and better books; of keeping reading experiences close to children's interests and needs; of providing opportunity for wide and varied reading; and of keeping our own faith in the power of good books.

Once a child has acquired a real love for reading, he can say with Henry Fabre of the book, *The Boy Who Found Out*, "It's a new world now — one of never-failing wonder".

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## Library Conference to Study Public Library Inquiry

The Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago announces that the 1949 Library Conference, to be held from August 8-13, will deal with the reports of the Public Library Inquiry.

In 1946 the American Library Association proposed to the Social Science Research Council that the Council con-



duct a "thorough and comprehensive study of the American free public library, . . . an appraisal in sociological, cultural, and human terms of the extent to which the libraries are achieving their objectives" and of the library's "potential and actual contribution to American society". The Public Library Inquiry was organized in March, 1947 under the general direction of Dr. Robert D. Leigh. A staff of several members with varying backgrounds has been at work in the past two years on perhaps the most complete single study of the public library as an American institution.

The Lancaster County Library was the South Carolina library selected for study. Publication of several reports in the summer of 1949 will conclude the inquiry.

The Library Conference of the University of Chicago will provide the first opportunity for public librarians to discuss the findings and results of the Inquiry.

### **Southeastern Regional Conference of the American Library Association**

The Southeastern Regional Conference of the American Library Association will be held at Miami Beach, Florida, October 26-29. Headquarters will be the Floridian Hotel and meetings and exhibits will be located at the Municipal Pier.

The first meetings are scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, October 26, and the closing session will be on Saturday morning, October 29. The first general session is Wednesday evening. A reception for new members will follow this session. There will be several general sessions but ample time will be scheduled for A. L. A. Divisional and other group meetings. Friday afternoon and evening will be free periods.

The details of the program have not been completed, but tentative plans call for at least one general session to consider the reports of the Public Library Inquiry. Dr. R. D. Leigh, Director of the Inquiry, will make the report and a group of librarians will be asked to comment on special aspects of the report. President-elect Milton Lord and Executive Secretary J. M. Cory are expected to attend. There will be one meeting of the A. L. A. Council. A. L. A. Divisional representatives have been appointed by Division chairmen to arrange programs for their respective groups.

The Floridian Hotel, 540 West Avenue, Miami Beach, has agreed to open Tuesday afternoon, October 25. The Conference will have exclusive use of the Hotel. Any delegates wishing to remain beyond October 29 may have their rooms at the Conference rate. Rooms may be occupied on single, double, or triple basis at the following per diem rates, European plan: single, \$6; double, \$8; triple, \$12.

Persons expecting to attend the Conference are asked to make their reservations by September 1, if possible, so that the Committee may know whether additional accommodations will be needed.

Negro librarians will find accommodations at the Mary Elizabeth Hotel, 642 N. W. Second Avenue, Miami. Reverend John E. Culmer, 1732 N. W. Third Court, Miami, has indicated his willingness to serve as a clearing house for those wishing rooms in private homes.

Members of the Planning Committee are Randolph W. Church, Chairman; Tommie Dora Barker; and Mrs. Augusta B. Richardson.

### **Librarians Attend Summer School**

Among librarians attending summer school:

Miss Jane Wright, Boys' High School, Anderson and Miss Myra Boozer of the Newberry High School are studying at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Mrs. George King, McMaster School, Columbia and Miss Monteen Manning, Hand Junior High School, Columbia are attending Emory University Division of Librarianship.

Miss Mary Grey Withers, Wardlaw Junior High School, Columbia and Miss Jean Sims of the State Library Board, Columbia are attending the School of Library Science, Columbia University.

Miss Jean Brabham, formerly head of the circulation department of the Richland County Library, Columbia is attending Library School at the University of North Carolina.

Miss Lorena Miller, county librarian of the Lexington County Library, is studying Library Science at Appalachian State Teachers' College.

### **Personals**

MISS GLADYS SMITH, associate librarian and associate professor of library science at Winthrop College, will become head of the college's Carnegie Library on September 1. A native of Batesburg and a Winthrop graduate, Miss Smith came to the Winthrop library in 1931. Prior to that time she was associated with the library of the University of North Carolina.

MISS ANNABEL W. FURMAN, librarian of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina for the last thirteen years has resigned to accept a post in the medical library at Wright-Patterson field, Dayton, Ohio.

Miss Furman will be replaced by Miss Desmond Koster, who has been serving for the last two years as an assistant librarian at Florida State University. Miss Koster graduated from the College of Charleston and received her degree in library science from the University of North Carolina.

MISS MARTHA JONES, librarian at Darlington High School is spending July and August at San Jose State College, San Jose, California, where she has a temporary position. Since entering library work in 1944 Miss Jones has done similar work at the University of Denver, the University of Michigan and Superior State College in Wisconsin.

MISS ANN ELLISON of Easley, a senior student at Columbia College, is serving in a temporary capacity as librarian in Oconee County until Miss Mary Elizabeth Bodie, newly appointed librarian, can assume her duties during the latter part of July. Miss Bodie graduated from Lander College this year and during the early summer months has had practical library experience in the Lexington County Library.

MRS. VERONA THOMAS of the Furman University library staff has been appointed to the advisory board of the Greenville County Children's Court by the Legislative Delegation.